

SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY

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MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING
of the
SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY
and the
SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

October 17, 2001

1. Call to Order.

The joint meeting of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Advisory Committee was called to order by Conservancy Chair Michael Berger at 7:36 p.m. on October 17, 2001 at Brookside Country Club, 1135 N. Rosemont Avenue, Pasadena, California.

The oath of office was administered to Legislative member Jackie Goldberg.

2. Roll Call of Conservancy.

The Conservancy roll was called and the following members were present: Mary Nichols, Elizabeth Cheadle, Russell Guiney, Steve Horn, Hal Ross, Jonathan Zasloff, Jerome C. Daniel, Vice Chair, and Michael Berger, Chair. The following members were absent: Ed Begley Jr. and Woody Smeck. Quorum present. The following member was present subsequent to roll call: David Allgood.

The following Legislative member was present: Jackie Goldberg.

The following Legislative member designees were present: Laura Plotkin, Susan McEntire, Michael Miiller, Mary Sue Maurer, and Scott Svonkin.

3. Roll Call of Advisory Committee.

The Advisory Committee roll was called and the following members were present: Colleen Briner-Schmidt, Ed Corridori, Dave Brown, Terre Hirsch, Mark Johnson, Clare Marter Kenyon, Linda Palmer, Anthony Portantino, Richard Gould, Don Robinson, Paul Rockenstein, Bruce Saito, Thomas Seifert, Nancy Steele, Nancy Stephens, Marc Stirdivant, Kenneth Warner, George Lange, Vice Chair. Quorum present. The following members were absent: Bruce Crow, Michael Cacciotti, Lesley Devine, Thomas Hasse, Roseann Mikos, and Alan Kishbaugh, Chair. The following member was present subsequent to roll call: Timothy Wendler.

Staff present: Joseph T. Edmiston, AICP, Executive Director; Belinda Faustinos, Chief Deputy Director; Rorie Skei, Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning; Amy Lethbridge, Deputy Executive Officer of Education and Interpretation; Reva Concoff, Chief of Special Projects; Walt Young, Chief Ranger; Laurie Collins, Chief Staff Counsel; Katherine Chew, Staff Counsel; Kathleen Bullard, Director of the Los Angeles River Center and Gardens; Elsa Luna, Chief of Finance and Administration; Stephanie Landregan, Landscape Architect; Jan Wolterstorff, Outreach Coordinator; Juliet Chung, Special Projects Coordinator; Leigh McAllister, Assistant to the Executive Director; and James Yeramian, Board Secretary.

Representing the Office of the Attorney General was Nedra Austin, Deputy Attorney General.

4. Minutes.

No minutes were submitted.

5. Reports.

The Conservancy received a verbal report from the Executive Director.

Comments were made by Ms. Nichols.

The Conservancy received a verbal report from Mr. Edelman.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

The Conservancy received a verbal report from Ms. Bullard.

The Conservancy received a verbal report from Ms. Concoff.

The Conservancy received a verbal report from Mr. Young.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

[Mr. Allgood arrived at 8:05 p.m.]

Comments were made by Mr. Young.

The Conservancy received a verbal report from Ms. Lethbridge.

Comments were made by Ms. Briner-Schmidt.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

6. Comments from members of the public on items not on the agenda and public testimony on all agenda items.

The following persons addressed the Conservancy:

Ms. Rosemary Woodlock, representing the Friends of the Santa Monica Mountains.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

Comments were made by Ms. Woodlock.

Ms. Cybill Scottford, representing the Country Open Space Association, on Box Canyon.

Mr. Roger Poughleese, representing the Topanga Association for Scenic Community, on item 7(h).

7. Consent Calendar:

- (a) **Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority authorize an agreement with the Harvard University Graduate School of Design for work on the Los Angeles River and Arroyo Seco Confluence.**
- (b) **Consideration of resolution recommending a grant augmentation to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for educational interpretation programs.**
- (c) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a letter of support for the City of Glendale grant application for restoration of the historic Le Mesnager stone barn in Deukmejian Wilderness Park, from the Proposition 12/Urban Recreational and Cultural Centers, Museums and Facilities for Wildlife and Environmental Education (URCC) Grant Program.**
- (d) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to Los Angeles County on Notice of Consultation for Conditional Use Permit 01-066, 2910 Kanan Road, Triunfo Creek watershed, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**

- (e) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to Ventura County on Studio Road Vehicle Bridge and Road Permit Number B01-000106 and Zoning Clearance Number 81260, Box Canyon (APN 649-0-278-06), unincorporated Ventura County.**
- (f) **Consideration of resolution authorizing the acquisition of Los Angeles County tax defaulted property, APN 2826-025-027 in the Newhall Pass, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**
- (g) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant augmentation to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for planning services to be conducted by the Trust for Public Land on projects along the Arroyo Seco.**
- (h) **Consideration of resolution amending Tuna Canyon project plan to add APNs 4448-007-080,081, 082, 083, 084, 085, 086, 087 and 4448-009-005 and 006, and to delete APNs 4448-007-097, 098, 099, and 100, City of Malibu and unincorporated Los Angeles County.**
- (i) **Consideration of resolution authorizing the addition of APNs 4448-007-096 and 4449-009-005 and 006 to the Tuna Canyon project on the Proposition A Workprogram.**
- (j) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the City of Malibu on the Malibu Forge Lodge project Draft Environmental Impact Report, 26025 Pacific Coast Highway, Solstice Canyon.**
- (k) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to Los Angeles County on the Environmental Impact Report for Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 48086, Spring Canyon project, Santa Clara River watershed, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**
- (l) **Consideration of resolution authorizing application for grant funds from the Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program of the Streets and Highways Code Section 164.56 for the Big Tujunga Wash-Verdugo Mountains Wildlife Corridor, City of Los Angeles**
- (m) **Consideration of resolution authorizing application for grant funds from the Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program of the Streets and Highways Code Section 164.56 for the Santa Susana Mountains-Simi Hills Wildlife Corridor, unincorporated Ventura County.**

- (n) **Consideration of resolution authorizing application for grant funds from the Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program of the Streets and Highways Code Section 164.56 for the Tierra Rejada Valley Wildlife Corridor, unincorporated Ventura County.**
- (o) **Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority apply for grant funds from the Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program of the Streets and Highways Code Section 164.56 for Los Angeles River and Arroyo Seco park improvement projects.**
- (p) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) to provide matching funds for the following Conservancy and MRCA Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program grant applications: Big Tujunga Wash-Verdugo Mountains Wildlife Corridor, Santa Susana Mountains-Simi Hills Wildlife Corridor, Tierra Rejada Valley Wildlife Corridor, and Los Angeles River and Arroyo Seco park improvement projects.**
- (q) **Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority apply for grants from both private and government sources for educational and interpretive programming.**
- (r) **Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority contract with the California Department of Forestry to perform brush abatement, trail work and other projects.**

Items 7(a), 7(c), 7(d) and 7(q) were removed from the consent calendar.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Briner Schmidt, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution Nos. 01-171, 01-174, 01-175, 01-175, 01-176, 01-177, 01-178, 01-179, 01-180, 01-181, 01-182, 01-183, 01-184, 01-185, 01-186 and 01-188.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution Nos. 01-171, 01-174, 01-175, 01-175, 01-176, 01-177, 01-178, 01-179, 01-180, 01-181, 01-182, 01-183, 01-184, 01-185, 01-186 and 01-188.

(The full text of these resolutions are attached.)

- 7(a). Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority authorize an agreement with the Harvard University Graduate School of Design for work on the Los Angeles River and Arroyo Seco Confluence.**

Questions were propounded by Ms. Goldberg.

Comments were made by Ms. Faustinos and the Executive Director.

Questions were propounded by Messrs. Allgood, Svonkin, Müller, and Lange.

Comments were made by Ms. Faustinos and the Executive Director.

Comments were made by Ms. Nichols.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Seifert, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 01-170.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 01-170.

(The full text of this resolution is attached.)

- 7(c). Consideration of resolution authorizing a letter of support for the City of Glendale's grant application for restoration of the historic Le Mesnager stone barn in Deukmejian Wilderness Park, from the Proposition 12/ Urban Recreational and Cultural Centers, Museums and Facilities for Wildlife or Environmental Education (URCC) Grant Program.**

Questions were propounded by Ms. Goldberg, Ms. McEntire, Ms. Nichols and Messrs. Zasloff and Allgood.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Robinson, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption

of Resolution No. 01-172.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 01-172.

(The full text of this resolution is attached.)

- 7(d). Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to Los Angeles County on Notice of Consultation for Conditional Use Permit 01-066, 2910 Kanan Road, Triunfo Creek watershed, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**

Comments were made by Ms. Palmer.

Comments were made by Mr. Edelman and the Executive Director.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Palmer, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 01-173.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 01-173.

(The full text of this resolution is attached.)

- 7(q). Consideration of a resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority apply for grants from both private and government sources for educational and interpretive programming.**

Questions were propounded by Ms. Goldberg.

Comments were made by Ms. Lethbridge.

[Mr. Wendler arrived at 9:46 p.m.]

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Briner-Schmidt, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended

adoption of Resolution No. 01-187.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Zasloff, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 01-187.

(The full text of this resolution is attached.)

8. **Consideration of resolution authorizing exercising right of first refusal pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 33207(b) for seventeen lots located in the Stone Canyon Reservoir area owned by the Department of Water and Power and described as Block 79, lots 6-13 and lots 21-24; Block 78 lots 9, 12 and 13; Block 126 lot 21 and Block 129 lot 44, City of Los Angeles and expanding the scope of the suit entitled *Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy v. City of Los Angeles, a Charter City and Department of Water and Power* to include the Stone Canyon Reservoir surplus properties. (This item may be heard in closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 11126, subdivision (e)).**

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Stephens, Ms. Cheadle, and Messrs. Müller and Daniel.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Palmer, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 01-189.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 01-189.

9. **Consideration of a resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority acquire a minimum of 240 acres of the approximately 1400 acre Upper Tuna Canyon property owned by 19800 Pacific Coast Highway Partners, APN's 4448-005-033 and 34, 4448-029-029, 4448-030-017, 021, 022, 023, 024; 4449-011-001; 4449-016-009, City of Malibu and unincorporated County of Los Angeles and accept the remainder portion not acquired as a donation. (This item may be heard in closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 11126, subdivision (c)).**

This item was heard in closed session.

- 10. Closed Session:** (The Conservancy may hold a closed session on the following items pursuant to Section 11126 Subdivision (c)(7)(A), Section 11126.3(a), and Section 11126 Subdivision (e) of the Government Code. Confidential memoranda related to the following items may be considered during such closed session discussions.) Discussion and possible action regarding pending and/or potential litigation: *Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy v. City of Los Angeles, a charter city and Department of Water and Power; Save Open Space v. County of Ventura (Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, Real Parties in Interest); Tucker v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy et al.; Tucker v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority et al.; City of Malibu v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy; City of Malibu v. California Coastal Commission, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy et al.; Ramirez Canyon Preservation Fund v. California Coastal Commission, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy et al.; Mirharooni v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy et al.; Malibu-Encinal Home Owners Association, Inc. v. Lechuza Villas West, LLP, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, State Coastal Conservancy et al.; Los Amigos de Caballero Canyon v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy et al.; Nervik v. State of California; Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority v. Soka University of America; Sierra Club et al. v. County of Los Angeles; State of California, ex rel. Andrea Tuttle, Director of Department of Forestry and Fire Protection v. Southern California Edison Company.*

The Chair called a closed session at 11:00 p.m. pursuant to Government Code Section 11126 Subdivision (a)(1) to discuss agenda item 9 and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority agenda item 10.

The Chair reconvened the open session at 11:25 p.m. and announced that the Conservancy received a report on agenda item 9 and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority agenda item 10.

11. Members comments on matters not on the Agenda.

Comments were made by Mr. Corridori.

Comments were made by Mr. Edelman and the Executive Director.

Comments were made by Ms. Cheadle and Ms. Nichols.

12. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.

The Chair announced that the next meeting would be held on November 26, 2001.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

JOSEPH T. EDMISTON, AICP
Executive Director

MICHAEL BERGER
Chairperson